

HABAKKUK

Background Information

The Man

- Name means “embracer”
- Contemporary of Jeremiah
- Addresses himself to God
- The only prophet to be called a prophet in pre-exilic times
- May have been a musician of the Levitical office – Hab. 3:19
- “He is called the Doubting Thomas of the Old Testament. He seems to have been more concerned with solving a problem than delivering a prophecy.” John Phillips: Exploring the Minor Prophets, p. 203.
- Contemporary with Jeremiah, Zephaniah and Ezekiel

The Message

- Poetic in style
- “The poetry of chapter 3 has been rightly accredited on every hand as the most magnificent Hebrew poetry.” Charles Feinberg The Minor Prophets page 206
- Theme verse is 2:4

Date

Between 612 BC – 605 BC (The Battle of Carchemish took place in 605 B.C. and Babylon was established as a world power)

Two questions are asked:

- Why would God allow Judah’s evil to increase? (1:2 –4)
- How could God use the Babylonians to punish Judah when they were so much more wicked (1:12 – 2:1)

The answers to the above 2 questions are called a Theodicy – a defense of God’s goodness
There are 5 woes pronounced on the Babylonians. (Chapter 2)

HABAKKUK 1-2:8

Habakkuk 3:17

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines;
the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat;
the flock shall be cut off from the fold,
and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

THE THINGS I WANT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS WEEK!!!

I COR. 10:31

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 1:1-4

Examine –

1. Who is writing this book?
2. What does he call it?
3. Who does he address?
4. What question does he ask God?
5. For what is he crying out?
6. What is he wondering if God will do?
7. What has the writer seen?
8. What is before him?
9. What do some people raise up before him?
10. What does he say is slack?
11. What does he say will never go forth?
12. Who is around the righteous?
13. Is the earthly judgment right?

NOTE: Remember Habakkuk is asking God these things!

Apply-

Does it seem to you that the wicked go unpunished?

Maybe you think that you got away with sin!

Read Psalms 73:17 – How does this change or verify your perspective?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 1:5-8

Examine –

Note: God is now answering him!

1. What should Habakkuk do?
2. What will God do in Habakkuk's days?
3. Will he believe it?
4. Will he be told about it?
5. Who is God going to raise up?
6. What kind of nation does He call them?
7. What will they do?
8. What will they possess?
9. How does He further describe them in verse 7?
10. What will proceed them?
11. How fast are their horses?
12. They are fiercer than what?
13. Where are they coming from?
14. How will they fly?

Apply-

God always judge's sin, but it may not be in the way we want Him to do it. Have you thanked Him for His righteous judgment lately?

How has it benefited you?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 1:9-11

Examine –

1. What will be their purpose for coming?

2. To what does He compare the look on their faces?

Note: Remember that several times in Scripture the east wind is referred to as bad.

Genesis 41: 6-27; Ps 48:7; Jonah 4:8

3. What will they gather?

4. How many will they have?

5. What will they do to the kings?

6. What will happen to the princes?

7. What will they do to every strong hold?

8. What does this mean?

9. What will they heap up?

10. What are some possible meanings of this?

11. Nebuchadnezzar, the king of this nation, will do what?

12. To whom will he attribute all his victories?

13. God said that he passed over and _____.

FACT: God deals with Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 6 for this!

Apply-

God had empowered them to do the work of conquering nations, and they gave the credit to their false gods. To whom do you give credit for the things you accomplish?

Give some specific examples.

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 1:12-14

Examine –

1. For what attribute does the writer praise God?
2. What does he say about the LORD?
3. He also calls him the _____ one.
4. What will they not do?
FACT: This means to die as a nation or cease to exist.
5. What has God ordained the Chaldeans to do?
6. For what has God established them?
7. Why can't God look on evil?
8. At what else can He not look?
9. Who is dealing treacherously in this passage?
10. When does God hold His tongue?
11. In the author's mind, who were the worst people, Israel or the Chaldeans?
12. Are the fishes in the sea and animals the same as men?
13. God has answered Habakkuk's first charge of not dealing with Judah's sin and now he can not understand how God could do it this way.

Apply-

When and concerning what have you questioned God?

Did you not like the answer He gave?

Sometimes it's hard for us to understand God because He is so far above us in understanding.

We have to simply trust Him.

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 1:15-17

Examine –

1. Habakkuk continues to describe the Chaldean nation.
2. How do they take up their captives?
3. Define angle – (make sure your definition matches the context)
4. How do they catch them?
5. How do they gather them?
6. These are all terms to describe what?
7. How do they feel about all this?
8. What do they do for their net?
9. What do they do for their drag?
10. What have these things “provided” for them?
11. Will they stop this kind of killing?

Apply-

There is pleasure in sin for awhile. (Hebrews 11:25) Just as the kingdom came to an end, so will the fun of your sin.

Don't be deceived by Satan to follow his paths.

What wrong paths are you following now?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 2:1-4

Examine –

1. Habakkuk is now talking to himself so to speak.
2. Where will he stand?
3. Where will he set himself?
4. For what is he watching (waiting)?
5. What is he expecting God to do to him?
6. What is he thinking about?
7. Did God answer him?
8. What does God tell him to do?
9. How should he make it?
10. What will those do that read it?
11. When will the vision come about?
12. Will the vision lie?
13. What should he do when it appears that it will not come?
14. When his soul is lifted up, is this right?
15. How will the just live?

NOTE: God will right the wrong and we must just live by faith in God!

Apply-

How do you live by faith?

Is there something you don't see clearly from God?

Are you trusting that He knows best?

Give your burdens and cares to God!

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:17

Read – Habakkuk 2:5-8

Examine –

Note: This passage is referring to the Babylonian Empire.

1. How does the Bible describe the men in the first part of verse 5?
2. As a result of this he is what?
3. Does he stay at home?
4. Can he ever be satisfied?
5. Who does he conquer?
6. Who are all these?
7. What will they do?
8. On whom is the first woe pronounced?
9. Those that will defeat this power, how will they rise?
10. What will the remnants of nations do to them?
11. Why?
12. What reasons will these people be judged?

Apply-

You always reap what you sow. This is seen in the entire Bible. What kind of seed are you sowing?

What kind of seed do you want to sow?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

HABAKKUK 2:9-3:19

Habakkuk 3:18

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will joy in the God of my salvation.

THE THINGS I WANT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS WEEK!!!

I COR. 10:31

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Habakkuk 2:9-14

Examine –

1. What does the second woe condemn?

2. Where is he gathering his spoil?

3. Where will he set his “nest”?

NOTE: They built their defenses with the spoil from other kingdoms!

4. Why does he do this?

5. What have they brought to their house?

6. How have they done this?

7. What have they sinned against?

8. What will cry against them?

9. What is the third woe condemning?

10. Who is orchestrating all this?

11. What will the materials of the city be used for in the future?

12. For what are the people laboring?

13. With what shall the earth be filled?

14. How much?

Apply-

They can build their fortress and their pretty cities, but God will bring it all to naught.

What are you trying to build?

Is it based on what God wants?

Ask Him to help you build things based on Him!

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Habakkuk 2:15-17

Examine –

1. What is the fourth woe condemning?
 2. What did they make of them?
 3. Why did they do this?
 4. What did they delight in to get glory?
 5. What goes along with drunkenness?
 6. What will be turned on them?
 7. Note: Drinking God's wrath is mentioned often in the Bible. (Isaiah 51:17-23)
 8. What will be on their glory?
 9. What is going to cover them?
 10. What had they done to animals?
 11. For what else are they being judged? (4 things)
-
12. To whom had they done this?
Note: They had destroyed their forest and killed their animals to build their large kingdoms and all this was now haunting them.

Apply-

Everything around them was a reminder of the destruction they had performed on everyone. God has a way of using the things we like to be a rebuke to us. Sometimes people call these scars. What scars do you already have?

What can you do now that will prevent them from developing in the future?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Habakkuk 2:18-20

Examine –

1. What are verses 18-19 talking about in general?
2. How is a graven image made?
3. What kind of teacher would this idol make?
4. It also says that the image is what?
5. Who trusts in those idols?
6. The idols are called what?
7. What is the fifth woe about?
8. What do they say to the wood?
9. What do they say to the stone?
10. What will the stone do for them?
11. With what is it covered?
12. Is it alive?
13. Who is in His Holy temple?
14. Note: This can mean the whole earth!
15. What should we do before Him?
16. Who should do this?

Apply-

It is foolish to worship something that we can make and tell what to do, yet we do it every day.
What do you worship or have a tendency to worship?

Are you silent before God or are you always running your mouth?

Just be quiet for a while and worship the LORD!

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Habakkuk 3: 1-6

Examine –

1. What is chapter 3?
2. What is it upon?
3. Note: This is probably a musical signature for this “song”.
4. What did he hear?
5. What was his response?
6. What does he want God to remember?
7. What does he want God to revive?
8. From what two directions does God come?
Note: This denotes from both the north and the south!
9. What covers the heavens?
10. Of what is the earth full?
11. Verses 4-5 describe God’s what?
12. What does he do to the earth?
13. What will He do to the nations?
14. What does He have control over?
15. How are his ways?

Apply-

When is the last time you praised God for all His wonderful works?

Would you purpose to do that today!!!

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Habakkuk 3:7-12

Examine –

1. What did he see of Cushan?
2. They were in what?
3. What was trembling?
4. Of what are tents and curtains made?
5. What natural elements does he talk about in this passage?
6. Can God be mad at the natural elements?
7. BONUS: Why or Why not?
8. What was made naked?
9. Note: Another way to say this is to take it out of its quiver.
10. At whose word did this happen?
11. Define Selah –
12. What did God do with rivers?
13. What was the mountain's response to God?
14. What was uttering God's voice?
15. What stood still?
16. To what did they respond?
17. How did God march through the land?
18. How did He deal with the heathen?

Apply-

What is the whole point of this passage?

I think it's to show how great a God we have. The heavens are praising Him. Even in judgment, God will get glory.

Are you giving God glory?

How?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Habakkuk 3:13-19

Examine –

1. What does God always desire?
2. What does He always do to the wicked?
3. How did the wicked come out against him?
4. In what did they want to rejoice?
5. Through what did God walk?
6. Can anything stand before God?
7. What happened to his belly when he heard God?
8. What about his lips?
9. What was in his bones?
10. What did he want to do in the day of trouble?
11. What may not blossom?
12. What may not be in the vines?
13. What may fail?
14. What may yield no meat?
15. What will we not have in the stalls?
16. Although all this happens, what will he do?
17. In what will he joy?
18. What is his strength?
19. What will he make his feet like?
20. Where will he be made to walk?

Apply-

Could you say that if everything goes wrong, you will still rejoice in God?

Are you rejoicing now?

What could keep you from rejoicing?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weekly memory verse – Habakkuk 3:18

Read – Review all of Habakkuk

Examine –

1. Who is Habakkuk talking to in the first chapter?
2. What appears to be happening in the first part of chapter one?
3. What nation will God use to judge Israel?
4. What kind of people is this nation?
5. What will king Nebuchadnezzar do that angers God?
6. Starting with 1:12, what does Habakkuk not understand?
7. To what does the writer compare the invasion at the end of chapter one?

8. What did God want the prophet to do with the vision in chapter two?
9. How should the just live?
10. What will the nations that they conquered do to them?
11. What did the second woe condemn?
12. How did they build towns?
13. Who made their idols?
14. What is chapter 3?
15. Over what does God have control?
16. What is praising God?
17. What does not tell God no?
18. What is the author's conclusion of the entire book?

Apply-

The author started out by questioning God but concludes with an endorsement of God no matter what happens. Can you place unwavering trust in God and His decisions?

How can you prove that today?

Prayer: _____

Praise: _____

Main thought to meditate on today: _____
